

## The Hawaiian Star

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FRANK L. HOOGS .....MANAGER  
 TUESDAY .....JUNE 18, 1907

### United States Has Cuba Mapped

While encamped at twenty-four different points in Cuba as a moral force and an object lesson, the officers of the United States army have not wasted their time. They have been busy all winter making topographical surveys and are now preparing a map of the island upon which will appear every road, trail and pathway; every well, stream and spring; every favorable place for defense and offense; every good camping ground; every pasture for horses; every source of supplies, and much other information that will be of great value in case it should ever be necessary to use a military force there. They have been working after the same plan that the Japanese adopted in Manchuria for nine years before war with Russia was declared. Realizing that a struggle between the two nations was inevitable, the general staff at Tokio sent out its ablest men, who made a thorough survey of the future battleground and located every point of importance and interest. They went still farther by preparing a biographical dictionary of all inhabitants of Manchuria, so as to show who were friendly to the Japanese. Under the direction of Col. Gaillard of the Engineer Corps, who has since been ordered to Panama, the representatives of the bureau of military intelligence have prepared a similar card index of the principal men in every district in Cuba. It will furnish a basis for a "Who's Who" directory of that island in case anybody is enterprising enough to take it up.

They have the name, the residence, the business or profession, the antecedents, the record, the political opinion and associations of every person of importance, including several thousand men in the different provinces, so that in case of trouble in the future the officers of our army may know whom they can depend upon. Duplicates of this biography will be made whenever necessary. In the meantime the cards will be filed in the bureau of military intelligence at Washington.

The greatest difficulty experienced by the Spaniards in fighting the revolutionists was their ignorance of the country. Both the officers and men of that army were strangers in the island, and the absence of roads and bridges and their ignorance of the trails through the woods and across the savannas made it impossible for them to pursue the insurgents, who would make a dash in the dark and vanish; carried on exasperating guerilla campaigns; appearing and disappearing at the most unexpected times and places.

Cuba is not well watered. There are no lakes, few streams and few springs; much of the well water is brackish and in many places the population is dependent entirely upon the contents of their cisterns, which are filled during the rainy season and should contain enough water to last through the season. This was a great embarrassment to the Spaniards also, but in case we are ever compelled to carry on a campaign down there, our officers will know the location of every cistern and the quality and quantity of water it contains.

### Value Of Savings Banks To People

In March, 1807, an act was passed in the British Parliament which created the first savings bank and established a system which has extended over a large part of the civilized globe. The United States, which was both young and poor at the time, was a little slower than some other countries in following England's lead, but we did this early enough to get "honorable mention" by the historians and statisticians who wrote about the system around the middle of the nineteenth century. The Philadelphia Savings Fund Association opened for business in November, 1816, and the Provident Institution for Savings started in Boston in December of that year. That was the beginning of the savings bank as an institution in the United States. In recent times we have far surpassed England in this field, and have taken the first place among the nations. New York with deposits of approximately \$1,400,000,000, heads the list of States in the extent of use of savings banks, with Massachusetts, \$650,000,000, second. New York city, of course, is far ahead of other towns in the country, and the Bowery Savings Bank, with deposits of over \$104,000,000, leads all the institutions of that sort in the world.

The deposits in the savings banks of the United States in 1907 are three and two-thirds times as great as the entire interest-bearing debt of the national Government. They exceed the aggregate tangible, marketable property, real and personal of the whole United States in 1840. And all of this vast accumulation of \$3,400,000,000 represents the savings, and only a part of the savings of the laborers, mechanics, clerks and the rest of the humbler wage workers of the country.

### Fatal Number "13" Is Still Feared

It is usually supposed that nowadays education has practically done away with superstition, and that whatever manifestations of it are left are to be found only among the ignorant, and almost exclusively among the foreign immigrants into this country who have not had the opportunities that have been provided here. A recent automobile contest in the east, however, almost provided another striking example of the influence of superstition even on educated people. There were to have been 15 contestants, but fortunately the number was reduced to 12 before the race actually took place. Last year, with more contestants in it, though the different machines were numbered in rotation, the number 13 was not given out because it was understood that the drivers objected to riding with so dread a talisman on their cars. They are perfectly willing to risk their lives making records of more than 60 miles an hour on an ordinary road, but they are not willing to take the awful added danger that would be incurred by identifying themselves with the number 13. It is well known now that most of the passenger steamships, at least those which leave the eastern ports of the United States, do not have staterooms numbered 13 because of the objection which many passengers have to traveling in such a room. Many of the hotels that have been built recently have eliminated the number 13 from their series of rooms for a similar reason. Is it any wonder that, with this senseless superstition still rampant, people should continue to think that various peculiar methods of treatment and even nonsensical remedies will relieve them of their pains and ills? What is needed, evidently is not education in general, but specific training in a state of mind and a development of character that will prevent the domination of such foolish remains of the ignorance of former generations.

### Tales Worth Telling

ON THEIR LAST LEGS.

The late Richard Toomes, who, dying at ninety-nine, was the oldest Odd Fellow in America, used to be very proud of his great age. At the Odd Fellows' Home in Philadelphia he liked to discuss longevity.

"I am a nonagenarian," he said one day to a visitor. "In my youth I never thought I'd become even a septuagenarian or an octogenarian."

"Speaking of octogenarians, I remember a conversation that I overheard when I was a young man, between two little relatives of mine. 'The younger, a boy, said to his sister: 'Mary, what is an octogenarian?'

"Well, I don't just know what they are," said the little girl, 'but they must be awfully sickly creatures. You never hear of 'em but what they're dying.'"

## ART IN HUMBLE THINGS.

Oscar S. Straus, the newly appointed Secretary of Commerce and Labor, is a connoisseur of pottery and porcelain.

In conversation with a reporter in New York Mr. Straus one day praised the useful arts—wood carving, tapestry weaving, cabinet making, and the like.

"Machinery," he said, "has robbed us of our useful arts to a great extent. In machine-made things there can be no artistic quality, no individual expression. In hand-made things, even the humblest, there is always an opportunity for art to show itself."

"Two street sweepers were quarreling one day about their talent in street sweeping."

"Well, Bill," said one, "I admit that you can clean up the middle of a street all right, but you ain't capable of doing any ornamental piece of work like sweeping around a trolley pole."

## THE SHORT TON.

In a small town in Pennsylvania are two brothers who are engaged in the retail coal business. A noted evangelist visited the town and the elder brother was converted.

For weeks after his conversion he endeavored to persuade his brother to join the church. One day he said to him:

"Why can't you, Richard, join the church as I did?"

"It's all right for you to be a member of the church," replied Richard, "but if I join who's going to weigh the coal?"

## THE PRICE OF PROFICIENCY.

Herkimer James, the well-known scientist, was talking in New York about the bill of \$25,000 that Dr. Frank Billings presented to the Marshall Field estate for seven days' treatment of the dead millionaire.

"It seems a big fee," said Professor James. "It comes to more than \$3,500 a day. 'It comes to more than \$3,500 a day, doesn't it? At that rate Dr. Billings' income would be a million and a quarter a year. Yes, it was a big fee, but whenever physicians' fees seem extortionate I think of a certain famous eye specialist."

"A patient of this specialist's, coming to pay his bill, growled:

"Doctor, it seems to me that \$500 is a big charge for that operation of mine. It didn't take you over half a minute."

"My dear, sir," the other answered, "in learning to perform that operation in half a minute I have spoiled over eleven pecks of such eyes as yours."

Train-wrecking is giving literary production quite a run for the honor of being the principal industry of Indiana.—Detroit Journal.

The revised version of its reads: "Don't flinch, don't foul, hit the lie hard."—Puck.

The Jamestown fair recalls Pocahontas. A reminder of the Smith family was not needed.—Atlanta Journal.

Mayor Schmitz's pompadour has lost much of its vigor and assertiveness.—Age Herald.

## FACTS AND FANCIES.

John L. Sullivan, while at the White House, declared himself for Taft, but this may have been from a desire to propitiate Pete the bulldog.

Senator Platt says he is sorry he ever hoisted Roosevelt, but, if really, in a repentant mood, there are other things for which he should be sorrier.

A statistician has figured out that a police official retiring in New York has received in salary a total of \$72,850, out of which he has saved \$300,000. With living expenses so high, too.

## MAKING GOOD.

Bonaparte had been disturbed out of his sleep.

"What's that?" he snapped. "The Department of Justice doing nothing? Well, I'll make it do something."

Thereupon he refused pardon to a worthy applicant.

## DITCH IN SIGHT.

Foraker had been told that there was a Taft boom in Ohio.

"I can't see it," he remarked. His followers professed a like lack of perception.

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However, it is of record that the blind have led the blind.

It seems that a participant in a recent prize fight had agreed to get whipped, but cruelly violated the compact. There may be honor among thieves, but modern pugilists are free from it.

An Atlanta man sent an infernal machine to the girl who had jilted him, proving at least that the girl and made no mistake.

## SAVING CHINA.

Certain powers were in conference on the subject of Chinese reality.

It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that the lands of the helpless Oriental should not be grabbed promiscuously.

"Supposing some of those Oregon fellows were to get in, where would we be at?" they asked each other.

Naturally, the upshot was the organization of an exclusive syndicate of grabbers.

Pine Knot, Washington and Oyster Bay are all mighty important places at different seasons of the year.—Pittsburg Gazette.

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